

## INFECTION PREVENTION



**Z-Slider Patient Transfer Sheet from Ansell** mission, eliminating cross contamination, and healthcare worker and patient safety and protection, points out Gilbert.

"Ansell manufactures an extensive portfolio of surgical, medical exam and specialty gloves for dental, first responders, food safety, environmental cleaning and sterile processing. We offer lab-safety solutions for chemical, biological and physical hazards, including cleanroom applications. We also offer disposable antimicrobial linens for operating room turnover kits, including disposable mops and straps, and other safety solutions such as positioners for pressure injury prevention, patient transfer and repositioning sheets, and a variety of sharps prevention."

### Surface cleaning

Hospitals accommodate many revolving visitors, patients and staff, in and out of many rooms, and in touch with many surfaces prone to contamination – from floors, furniture, computers and more. Matt Schiering, Chief Marketing Officer, **Contec Inc.**, shines a light on the numerous staff assisting with cleaning and disinfection along with the company's pre-saturated IPA wipes and Laundry-Free, disposable microfiber used in cleaning and disinfecting clinical and patient areas.



Contec Inc.'s Premira mop pad

"The hidden heroes right now are the EVS workers and compounding pharmacists who are maintaining the cleanest environments possible during the pandemic. In patient care areas, we see increased disinfectant use. In sterile compounding, IPA and PPE top the list. More confidence in cleaning is the emerging priority. More pre-saturated solutions delivering a metered

"dose" through mops and/or wipes is one example. Disinfecting chemistries which clean, disinfect and decontaminate surfaces quickly and without damaging what they're applied to are also in heightened demand," Schiering indicated.

Doe Kley, Senior Infection Preventionist, **Clorox Healthcare**, believes all staff should be responsible for maintaining clean and safe healthcare environments. She points to the new **Clorox Total 360 electrostatic sprayer** with **Clorox Healthcare Spore<sup>11</sup> Defense Cleaner Disinfectant**, which are EPA-approved to kill the top HAI-causing pathogens on hard, nonporous surfaces.



Clorox Total 360 electrostatic sprayer with Clorox Healthcare Spore<sup>11</sup> Defense Cleaner Disinfectant

"It's an all-hands-on deck situation in which everyone (not just the environmental services department) must do their part to ensure the environment is safe and clean for patients, visitors and staff. A recent peer-reviewed study conducted by Curtis Donskey, MD, Infectious Disease Specialist, **Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center**, found that using **Spore Defense** with the **Clorox Total 360 System** was just as effective as bleach wipes in reducing *C. diff* spores inoculated on wheelchairs, but could be applied in one-fourth of the time, providing healthcare facilities with a rapid and effective means to reduce spore contamination on surfaces like never before,"<sup>12</sup> Kley addressed.

As fingers touch and contaminate keyboards, **Deanne VanKirk**, National Sales Manager, **Key Source International (KSI)**, stresses the importance of KSI's disinfectant-enabled **LinkSmart** keyboard and **San-a-Key** software.

"Maintaining clean keyboards at the healthcare desktop on a 24/7 basis will be



KSI-1801 LinkSmart keyboard

more important than ever, now that we know how easily COVID-19 is spread and its impact on patients. Whereas traditional keyboards are breeding grounds for germs and viruses, our **LinkSmart** keyboard features an integrated cleaning button that enables frontline healthcare workers to temporarily disable keys for proper disinfection. Our companion software, **San-a-Key**, provides an onscreen, animated cleaning guide, scheduled cleaning, desktop push reminders and analytics that empower administrators to know the who, when and where of keyboard cleaning. Our keyboards feature a smooth, crevice-free silicone surface that prevents collection of dirt and germs," **VanKirk** noted.

While shoes touch and contaminate floors, **Maria P. Garces**, Marketing Manager, **PathO3Gen Solutions** presents its **Footwear Sanitizing Station** that connects to a standard outlet, requires no additional staff and provides a visible sign of 24/7 continuous protection. A handheld wand using the company's patented **Ozone + UVC** technology for sanitizing surfaces, objects and more is also in the pipeline.

"We foresee the implementation of preventative measures in practically every industry that has contact with people on a massive scale. Currently, staffing companies in partnership with hotels in NYC have placed the **Footwear Sanitizing Station (FSS)** in hotel lobbies so that healthcare workers can confidently proceed into their hotel rooms, having eliminated pathogens from the soles of their shoes. Similarly, hospitals and elderly care homes are placing the FSS at every entrance to protect the perimeter and significantly reduce the spread of pathogens that are carried into a facility. Our technology has been proven to eliminate up to 99.999% of deadly HAI-causing pathogens. Additionally, the FSS eliminated the human coronavirus from footwear in just eight seconds, in a three-part study performed by **CREM Co. Labs** in Canada," **Garces** said.



She reported that after six months of implementing the FSS, **AdventHealth Connerton**, an acute care facility in Florida, saw a 34% reduction in HAIs. **Jeffrey Miley**, Pharm. D., CPh., Director of Pharmacy Services, **AdventHealth**, described, "To

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# BE A HERO.

## Keep people & patients safe, one surface at a time.

### EnSURE™ Touch - The Most Innovative ATP Cleaning Verification System Helps You:

- Track cleaning efforts and verify they have been effective.
- Verify high-touch areas in your facility have been cleaned properly.
- Verify hand-washing effectiveness.
- Verify common areas, meeting rooms, and offices have been cleaned properly.

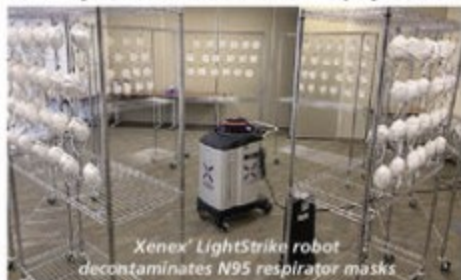


## INFECTION PREVENTION

help improve our compliance with USP 797 and minimize the risk of pathogens contaminating our clean room, we added to our department's action plan the PathO3Gen Solutions Footwear Sanitizing Station. The stations are now part of our process that each employee uses prior to entering our clean room. We will continue to utilize the PathO3Gen Solutions Footwear Sanitizing Station in our ante room because the more tools we have to minimize risk for our patients helps us provide safer patient care. Our last air and surface samples were negative for any growth in both rooms."

### No-touch room disinfection

COVID-19 and other pathogens persist and operating rooms, emergency rooms and other hospital rooms need to be turned over and cleaned quickly and thoroughly. Sarah Simmons, DrPH CIC FAPIC, Senior Director of Science, Xenex, calls out its pulsed xenon UV disinfection robots, which can deactivate pathogens and work in five-minute cycles, without damaging materials or equipment.



Xenex LightStrike robot decontaminates N95 respirator masks

"Little has changed in the past 20 years in how we clean and disinfect hospitals. Studies show that less than half of surfaces in a hospital room are disinfected when it's being cleaned and prepared for the next patient, which poses a threat to the next patient or healthcare worker in that room. The coronavirus pandemic is making it evident that more is needed to stop the spread of disease in healthcare facilities. As a result of the pandemic, we've seen increased interest from other healthcare facilities, such as urgent care centers, treatment facilities and medical office buildings. When you're able to disinfect dozens of rooms per day (like you can with a LightStrike robot), it brings the cost down to about \$5/room," Simmons stated.

She continued, "We've seen hospitals move their LightStrike robots from the OR to the emergency department so they can immediately disinfect rooms and areas where coronavirus patients are seen/treated. The LightStrike robot was recently proven to deactivate SARS-CoV-2 in two minutes. Our robots are able to quickly disinfect high-touch surfaces where pathogens can linger (bed rails, tray tables, nurse call buttons, grab bars, wheelchairs, etc.) that may be missed during the manual cleaning process. The Mayo Clinic published a study documenting its 47% reduction in *C. diff* infection rates after it began using LightStrike robots to disinfect rooms on targeted units. Other hospitals, like Baptist Health in Jacksonville and United Hospital Center, began using their LightStrike robots to decontaminate N95 respirator masks. 3M determined that our robot's intense pulsed xenon UV light would not damage the fit or filtration of N95 respirators," Simmons explained.

Tru-D SmartUVC robots also provide an additional layer of room cleaning and defense against infections, addresses Alice Brewer, Director of Clinical Affairs, Tru-D SmartUVC.

"During outbreaks or pandemics, it is critical to strictly adhere to evidence-based practices for thorough



Tru-D SmartUVC robot

disinfection and infection prevention. This includes manual cleaning with the addition of "no-touch" disinfection whenever possible. "No-touch" disinfection with Tru-D can also be used prior to manual cleaning to provide a cleaner environment for environmental services staff. Studies have shown that up to 50% of surfaces in healthcare settings are not properly disinfected by manual cleaning alone, which increases the risk of infection for anyone entering the room. By adding Tru-D to standard cleaning protocols, all surfaces in a room are disinfected, and the risk to the next patient and healthcare worker is decreased," Brewer expressed.

As SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, lingers on surfaces and is easily spread, cleaning and disinfecting entire

rooms is critical, stressed David St. Clair, Chairman and CFO, Halosil International. Disinfection solutions such as Halosil's Halo Disinfection System, which pairs dry-fog delivery with HaloMist (EPA Reg. No. 84526-6) disinfectant, are imperative to help decrease the possibility of infections.

"COVID-19 is highly contagious; reports state that SARS-CoV-2 can live up to three days on surfaces. To ensure the safety of workers and patients, healthcare facilities are relying on whole room disinfection solutions that can eliminate tough-to-kill pathogens wherever they lurk. Unlike electrostatic sprayers, which require an operator to continuously deploy the solution, our system is simply turned on and dispenses in touchless mode, limiting operator exposure to deadly viruses, while also eliminating the inherent risk in manual methods of disinfection that may leave some surfaces untreated. I expect tomorrow's new normal in disinfection will extend beyond healthcare into industries such as transportation, education and gyms where infections are prone to spread," he noted. HPN



Halosil International's Halo Disinfection System

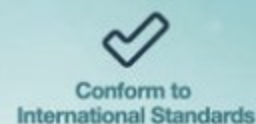
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